

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0509

April 30, 2021

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The Honorable David E. Price Chairman Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies U.S. House of Representatives 2358-A Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Ranking Member
Committee of Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$300,000 for Veterans Memorial Buildings Improvements in the fiscal year 2022 Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.

The project sponsor for this project is the Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office, and the project is located at 757 1st Street, Brentwood, CA 94513, and 815 Fulton Shipyard Road, Antioch, CA 94509.

The Veterans Memorial Buildings Improvements project would provide safety upgrades and energy efficiency improvements at two veterans memorial buildings to improve building systems and safety, reduce maintenance costs, and ensure that they can continue to be used by veterans for generations to come. These buildings are where core services are delivered by the County's Veterans Service Office, VA Vet Centers, Veterans Service Organizations including Marine Corps League, American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as various community organizations and nonprofits.

Many of these buildings are 100 years old and are in need of capital improvements to make them more energy efficient and safer for the public. Redevelopment funds are no longer available to communities, and some Veterans Service Organizations have had to rely on fundraisers to maintain these buildings and keep their doors open.

The Veterans Memorial Buildings Improvements project represents a good use of taxpayer dollars as funding for the project will provide vital safety upgrades and energy efficiency improvements to veterans memorial buildings that serve both veterans and the public at large. The project will improve building systems and safety, reduce maintenance costs, and reduce energy dependence and greenhouse gas emissions. The funding will be used for capital improvements including HVAC system replacements; ADA accessibility improvements; perimeter safety measures; and other facilities upgrades. These building

improvements will allow for the Veterans Service Organizations to focus on providing services that benefit veterans and the community and for the VA and Contra Costa County Veterans Service Office to continue its advocacy and treatment for veterans and their families.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Jerry McNerney

Member of Congress